

B1 16. (Once Amended) The coded image capture and decoding system of claim 15 wherein the [host] processing circuit selectively responds to the code processing circuitry to control the time at which decode processing will be performed.

17. (Once Amended) The coded image capture and decoding system of claim 15 further comprising interface circuitry that assists in delivering the plurality of images to the [host] processing circuit for decoding after the plurality of images have been stored in the image buffer.

18. (Once Amended) The coded image capture and decoding system of claim 17 wherein the interface circuitry utilizes wireless transmissions in the delivery of the plurality of images to the [host] processing circuit.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-9, and 13 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly met by Tymes (U.S. Patent No. 5,157,687) in view of Metlitsky (U.S. Patent No. 5,545,886). Claims 1, 5, 8-9, and 14-18 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly met by Tymes in view of Shreesha (U.S. Patent No. 5,798,516). Claims 4, 6, and 12 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly met by Tymes in view of Shreesha, and further in view of Grodevant (U.S. Patent No. 5,260,554). Claims 7 and 10 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly met by Tymes in view of Shreesha, and further in view of Park (U.S. Patent No. 5,675,424). Claim 11 presently stands rejected as allegedly met by Tymes, in view of Shreesha, Park, and Grodevant.

Applicants have amended claims 16-18, in the manner pointed out in the Office Action. Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out the discrepancies, and have implemented the suggested changes. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claims 16-18 under §112.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 5, 8-9, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly met by Tymes in view of Metlitsky.

Claim 1 is directed to a coded image capture and decoding system with a remote and a host unit. The capture unit captures an image data of a coded target and generates images based on the received image data. The images are stored in an image buffer. The host system has a non-dedicated second processing circuit, that, after the plurality of images are stored in the image buffer and after a request by the capture system, attempts decode processing of the plurality of images.

Applicants respectfully object to the characterization of the cited prior art as capable of decoding a plurality of *independently stored images* after the plurality of *images* have been stored in an image buffer. Secondly, there is no rational reason to combine the cited prior art in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

First, the unit in Tyme does not appear to generate *images*. A careful reading of the citation in the Office Action reveals that the Tyme unit does not capture images, but performs the function of decoding *at the capture unit*. The decoded material is then relayed to a base station. As such, in using the Tyme reference, the rejection of claim 1 using Tyme is insufficient for at least two distinct reasons. First, Tyme does not store and transmit *image data* in the capture unit, but decodes and transmits the decoded information to the base unit. Thus, the invention of claim 1 is not described when using Tyme.

Second, Tyme actually teaches away from the claimed invention. The invention of claim 1 has a base unit that performs the decode function, after the image has been captured by the capture unit. Tyme performs the decode function *in the capture unit*. (See col. 11, lines 21-23; “[the] features can be checked by code executed by the CPU [in the capture unit]”; among others) As such, Tyme teaches away from the transferring of the captured *image* to the base unit for decoding at a later time.

Metlitsky does not show these features, among others. In fact, Applicants again object the characterization of Metlitsky as capturing *images*. In a closer reading of Metlitsky, it is found that an image is not captured, but that an image is decoded rather captured. (See Metlitsky, Figs. 8, 9, and 10.) Once again, the use of the capture device to decode at the capture device, rather than storing an image for later transfer and decoding, does not comport with the invention as described in claim 1.

For these reasons, among others, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is, in fact, allowable in view of both Tyme and Metlitsky. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claim 1 over Tyme and Metlitsky, and issue a notice of allowance for claim 1.

Independent claim 8 recites, among other items, a remote capture unit that has an image processing circuit that generates a plurality of coded images. The remote capture unit also has an image buffer that stores the plurality of coded images generated by the image processing circuit. The capture and decode system also contains a host unit which has a processing circuit. The processing circuit performs decode processing of the coded images.

As described above in relation to claim 1, the combination of Tyme and Metlitsky do not seem to be sufficient to merit a rejection of claim 8. Correspondingly, Applicants request that

the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claim 8 for many of the same reasons, among others, presented with relation to claim 1 regarding the sufficiency of Tyme and Metlitsky.

Claims 2-7 and 9-14 are dependent on claims 1 and 8, respectively. Accordingly, for many of the same reasons, among others, presented in relation to claims 1 and 8, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2, 3, 5, 9, and 13 in view of Tymes and Metlitsky.

Claims 1, 5, 8-9, and 14-18 were rejected over Tymes in view of Shreesha. The addition of Shreesha does not correct many of the shortcomings of Tymes, related previously. Additionally, as with Tymes and Metlitsky, the scanning system of Shreesha does not contemplate the storing of images and the later transfer of images for decoding by a base unit. Again, as with the other mentioned prior art, Shreesha is directed to the decoding of the information *at the capture unit*. In combining Shreesha with Tyme, the combination still does not address transferring the *plurality of images* to the base unit for *later decoding*. The act of decoding occurs in these pieces of art *at the capture unit*.

As such, with reference to claims 1, 8, and 15, the proposed combination lacks these features, among others. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1 and 8 in view of Tyme and Shreesha.

The remaining claims are dependent on claims 1, 8, and 15. Accordingly, for many of the same reasons, among others, presented in relation to claims 1 and 8, presented above, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 5, 9, 14, and 16-18 in view of Tymes and Shreesha.

Claims 4, 6, and 12 were rejected in view of Tymes, Shreesha, and Grodevant. Grodevant does not make up the shortcomings of Tymes and Shreesha, as presented above in

relation to claims 1 and 8. For this, among other reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 4, 6, and 12 in view of Tymes, Shreesha, and Grodevant.

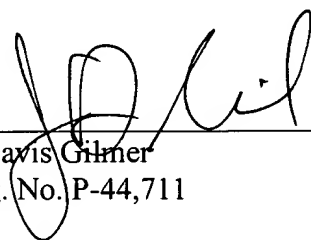
Claims 7 and 10 were rejected in view of Tymes, Shreesha, and Park. Park does not make up the shortcomings of Tymes and Shreesha, as presented above in relation to claims 1 and 8. For this, among other reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 7 and 10 in view of Tymes, Shreesha, and Park.

Claim 11 was rejected in view of Tymes, Shreesha, Park, and Grodevant. Neither Park nor Grodevant make up the shortcomings of Tymes and Shreesha, as presented above in relation to claims 1 and 8. For this, among other reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 11 in view of Tymes, Shreesha, Park, and Grodevant.

In view of the above remarks, and for various other reasons, Applicants submit that all of the claims are in a condition for allowance. As such, Applicants solicit a Notice of Allowability for all claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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